

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

Know the new **child seat** REQUIREMENTS



Dear Friend,

As a legislator, protecting children is one of my top concerns. I was proud to support a new law that helps keep children safer on the road.

As of July 1, 2008, Public Act 43 requires that all children under the age of eight, who are shorter than 4 feet 9 inches tall, be securely fastened in a booster seat while riding in a car or truck.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children over the age of one. In a crash, safety belts that are designed for adults can contribute significantly to a child's injuries. A child sits higher with a booster seat, so the seat belt fits properly and provides better protection.

The good news is that booster seats are readily available at most stores and often provided free of charge to those in need. The best news is that **using a booster seat immediately increases child safety.**

Please help get the word out: Booster seats save lives!

Sincerely,

STATE SENATOR

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Under the new law, children 4-8 years old, and who are less than 4 feet 9 inches tall, must be properly secured in a child restraint system.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In 2005, more than 7,000 Michigan children under age 16 were injured, and 84 children were killed, in crashes.
- More than 90 percent of children between 4 and 8 years old who are seriously injured in auto accidents aren't restrained in a booster seat.
- Using a booster seat with a seat belt instead of a seat belt alone reduces a child's risk of injury by nearly 60 percent.
- Children in states with booster seat laws are 39 percent more likely to be restrained in a booster seat.
- Michigan joins 38 other states with an expanded booster seat law.
- For more information on booster seats visit www.michigansafekids.org.

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